

WINE PUTS OUT A BLAZING DRESS.

Mrs. George B. de Forrest
Has a Narrow Escape at
an Unique Frolic.

Champagne Bottles Seized and
Broken to Quench the
Spreading Blaze.

Almost a Tragical Ending for a Decidedly
Fancy Dress Affair at "Jimmy"
Breese's Studio.

SOCIAL CREME DE LA CREME PRESENT.

Host Was Dressed as a Turk, His Studio Was
a Cafe Chantant, and Society Belies
Were the Bar-
maids.

This is the tale of a fashionable frolic
that very nearly ended in a tragedy. All
of the participants in the affair were
sworn to secrecy, but as murder will out,
so will fire.

The fire which sobered the spirits of the
frolicers and threw some of the grandes
dames present into hysterics, consumed
part of the very fetching fancy toilette
worn by Mrs. George B. de Forrest. As
no water was available, the flames were
extinguished with champagne.

The scene of the revel, which so nar-
rowly escaped ending disastrously, was
the studio of James Lawrence Breese, at
No. 5 West Sixteenth street. Mr. Breese
is a product of Tuxedo, and is a decided
original. As such he is persona grata in
the fashionable world, where novelty is
at a premium. Having attained high pro-
ficiency as an amateur photographer, he
adopted that craft as his field of labor, and
became the fad of the hour. His "carbon
studio" is a favorite resort of the Four
Hundred, and is made the scene of period-



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ARE JAY GOULD MILLIONS GOING?

Wall Street Records Show a
Decline in the Prop-
erties He Left.

Lack of Unity of Purpose of the
Heirs Said to Threaten the
Fortune's Cohesion.

Manhattan Elevated, Missouri Pacific
and Western Union Telegraph
All Show Declines.

ABSENCE OF A MASTER HAND NOTED.

Interests of the Gould Children So Diverging
That the Colossal Fortune Is Not Kept
Compact Like That of the
Vanderbilts.

On Thursday, when other stocks
were going up all along the line,
Gould shares dropped in value.

Yesterday, when all shares were
tumbling, those controlled by the



GEORGE J. GOULD

children of the great financier
dropped rather faster than the others.

Why?

Up and down Wall Street, that financial
world wherein men are content to win or
lose a prince's ransom on the strength of
a rumor untraced and untraceable, there
is a strong belief that the great Gould
fortune, built to its colossal size by Jay
Gould, who worked and schemed so ably,
is breaking up at last, and that the prop-
erties which delighted his thrifty soul are
sinking under a hammering produced by
lack of confidence.

These properties are the Wabash, in
which the family has a large interest; the
Texas Pacific, which it absolutely controls;
the St. Louis Southwestern, known as
"Eddie Gould's road"; the Manhattan El-
evated, in which the family has an enor-
mous interest, even greater than Russell
Sage; the Missouri Pacific, controlled abso-
lutely, the pet of Jay Gould, and the West-
ern Union Telegraph, on which the family
has had its grip for a great number of years.

For a long time the public is said to have
made emphatic its loss of confidence, and
there has been a gradual decline all along
the line of Gould securities. There has
been such a tide setting in against them that
the bear interest has added its hammering
to the steadily falling fashion, and the result
has been startling.

Take one day's figures as a sample: Yester-
day Texas Pacific sold at 8 1/2, a decline
from 9 1/2; St. Louis Southwestern pre-
ferred stock sold at 9 1/2, which was start-
lingly low; Missouri Pacific went to 18
from 20 1/2; Western Union sold at 80 1/2, a
drop in one day from 83 1/2; Manhattan El-
evated touched 87 1/2, falling from 91 1/2.

It was more than ordinarily severe, per-
haps, yet it shows the downward tendency.

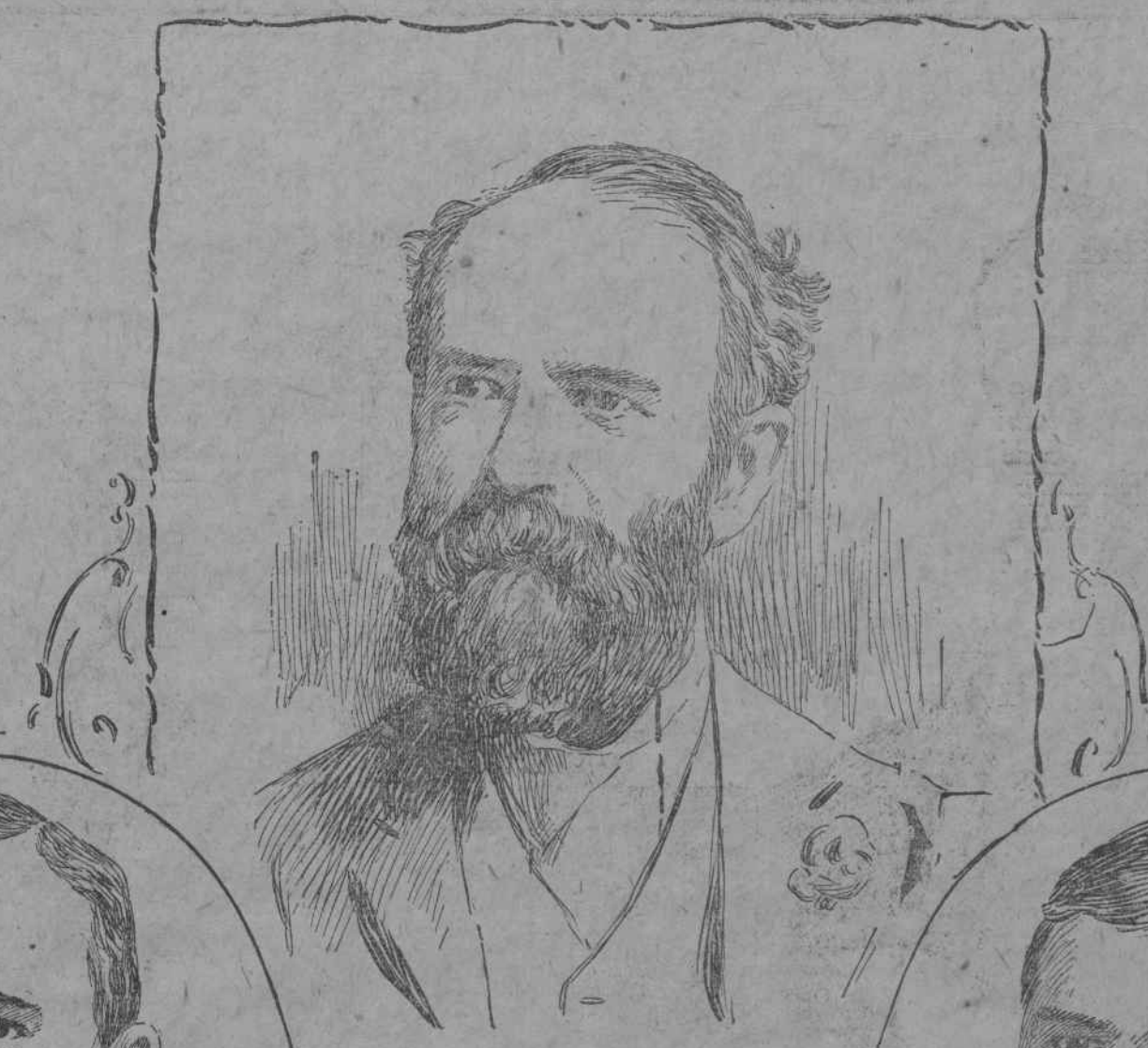
And there are said to be special reasons
for this state of things which financiers
will not misunderstand. Western Union, that
water soaked stock of the Goulds, is no
longer the monopoly it formerly was. It still has
the Bell Telephone Company, but a new
telephone corporation has been formed in
the West, backed with plenty of money,
by conservative, careful men, who mean
business. Signs are not lacking that they
will league themselves with the Postal
Telegraph Company, to fight the Western
Union and the Bell. The natural outcome
is for the old telegraph and the old tele-
phone company to pool issues against the
new telegraph company and the new tele-
phone company.

Western Union's Powerful Rival.
The Postal Telegraph Company is doing
all the harm it can, and it is capable of a
good deal. It is new and up to date, fully
alive to business possibilities, and, better
than all, it has no watered stock. It has
now combined with the Commercial Cable
Company in fact, as well as in name, and
that counts for much. Formerly there was
a working agreement, but it held only at
the pleasure of the stockholders of the two
concerns, and might be ruptured on short
notice.

The Western Union is well known to be
over capitalized. Jay Gould said it did not
look well for the corporation to pay a
large dividend on such a small capital
stock, and, of course, that was a fault
easily remedied, and it was by watering the
stock to an unheard-of extent.

It is much the same with the Manhattan

FOUNDER OF A FORTUNE AND SONS WHO HANDLE IT.



GEORGE J. GOULD

Elevated. It is old and out of date, and for
years has been marked by incompetent
management and injured by unheeded
cautions. It has been slow to make
needed repairs on the structure itself, and
it is fast getting into a state that will cost
a great deal of money to make good.

It is said in Wall street that the elevated
is not earning its dividends, and that it
hasn't been doing so for a year past; that
the part of certain bondholders of bringing suit
to stop this, it being maintained that dis-
rupting the surplus tended to lower the
value of the securities.

When the election was held recently it
was anticipated that some fresh blood
would go in, instead of that all the di-
rectors elected were Gould men. Wall
Street saw in this action a cause for sell-
ing the "L" stocks, and they fell off in
the open market 2 or 3 points.

No later than yesterday Mortimer Hand-
ricks, one of the bondholders, asked at Al-

any for the removal of the directors, and
a hearing is to be had on December 23.

Any abroad as he does in finance at
home; Howard is deep in yachting and
Edwin is at war with the Diamond Match
Company, in which, so it is said by many,
Compt's is a good chance to get hurt before
he starts a new one.

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DREW GORE FROM HILLIARD'S NOSE.

Pugilistic Actor Caught a
Tartar in His Leading
Lady's Husband.

Scuffle in a Philadelphia Dressing
Room That Was
Exciting.

Row Was All About a Proposed Five
Dollar Reduction in Amelia Bing-
ham's Weekly Salary.

BINGHAM IS LITTLE, BUT "NERVY."

Hilliard, However, Is Quite Certain That He
Came Out of the Wild Encounter
with His Usual Flying
Colors.

Philadelphia, Dec. 18.—"Bob" Hilliard,
whose reputation as a boxer is as wide-
spread as his ability as an actor, had an
encounter with Lloyd Bingham, husband of
Amelia Bingham, Hilliard's leading lady, in



EDWIN GOULD

the latter's dressing room at the Walnut
Street Theatre on Sunday night.

When the stage hands called "time" on
the first round, which also was the last,
"Handsome Bob's" features were somewhat
out of gear and a stream of blood flowed
from his nose, while Bingham nursed sev-
eral good-sized bumps on his head.

The fight took place after the rehearsal
on Sunday afternoon. According to Bingham,
Hilliard walked into the dressing room and
remarked that he proposed to reduce Mrs.
Bingham's salary \$5 per week. Mr. and
Mrs. Bingham remonstrated at this, but
Mr. Hilliard insisted on his point, and
added that the \$5 did not make any differ-
ence to him, and to demonstrate this he
said he would buy her \$5 worth of flowers.

Mrs. Bingham said she would rather have
the money, but Hilliard replied that he
wanted it understood that the members of
his company would do as he wished.

"Well, we don't have to do as you wish,"
said Bingham.

Hilliard then, says Bingham, used
language that positively burned. Bingham
jumped to his feet and struck him on the
nose, drawing first blood. Recovering him-
self, Hilliard rushed at his opponent and
then followed a good old London prize
ring bout.

Down on the floor the two men fell, roll-
ing over each other, jabbing right and
left, while Mrs. Bingham loudly called for
help.

When the stage hands arrived Hilliard
and Bingham were pulled apart, and Hilliard
left the dressing room, after several min-
utes declaring that Bingham had struck
him first.

Bingham's Side of the Story.

"Hilliard wanted to reduce my wife's
salary in the season," said Bingham to-day,
"but we refused the reduction. When we
closed in Chicago the company came back
to New York, and last week Hilliard got us
together for this Philadelphia engagement.
We agreed, providing my wife was to be
paid her original salary. Hilliard knew
this and agreed to it."

"The scrap affair was patched up on
Monday, and Hilliard paid my wife her
salary in advance and apologized to her.
I was to be outdone, I purchased a wreath
Not owners Monday, and, with a note apolo-
gizing for having hit him, I sent them to
Hilliard. He sent it back to me that night,
with an insulting letter, and said he ought
to be paid my salary."

Hilliard's version of the affair is this:
"You know we have been in hard luck all
season. I lost a lot of money, but paid up
the season with the company. Last week Man-
all I drove, of the Walnut, offered me a
wreath and I called the company together,
told them they would have to stand a
10 percent decrease in salary, and all agreed
small Mrs. Bingham. I agreed to pay her
except 12 salary for the one week, and she
accepted."

Hilliard Says He Thrashed Him.

"My husband, who has been after me all
season for a place, came with her. On
Sunday he asked me when he was to go
and I told him I could not say, and he
said Mrs. Bingham should not play
then this week. I told him that I would
then reduce her salary, as all the others
had."

"He said if I did she would not play any
more, and I told him to go to a warmer
place. He tried to strike me, and I fought
back. He was a bigger man than I was, and
thrashed him. The next night he insulted
me by sending me a wreath of flowers and
an apology, which I sent back with a note
saying I was sorry I did not thrash him
more. Now, that's all there was in it."

Amelia Bingham, Whose Husband Tried to Whip "Bob" Hilliard.

She is the pugilistic actor's leading lady and declined to submit to a reduction in
her salary. Her husband resented certain words the actor used in dis-
subject, and a rough and tumble fight followed, in which Hilliard is said to have lost
some bright, red blood.

CHARITY FUNDS HAVE GONE ASTRAY.

State Board Discovers Evi-
dence of Wholesale Mis-
appropriation.

Many New York Institutions
Which Keep No Books
of Account.

Unlimited Opportunities for Men Han-
dling Contributions to Feather
Their Own Nests.

INVESTIGATIONS WILL BE ORDERED.

More Than Three Hundred Loosely Con-
ducted Establishments in the State
Which Receive in the Course of
Each Year Over \$14,000,000.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 18.—A sensation is
produced when the annual report of the
State Board of Charities is made public
early next year, for the inspectors of the
Board have found that many of the char-
itable institutions of the State do not keep
books of account and enormous misap-
propriations of public and private contribu-
tions are apprehended.

Secretary Robert W. Hebbard, of the
Board, is guarded in what he has to say
concerning the condition of affairs, but
enough has been gleaned to show that
many of the charitable, eleemosynary, reformatory or correctional institutions in the
State there have been extraordinary oppor-
tunities for the appropriation of funds con-
tributed by the State municipalities and
private persons, which ought to have gone
to the poor and to the alling.

Secretary Hebbard said to-night: "These
resolutions have been adopted by the
Board:

Whereas, It appears that there are charitable
institutions in the State of New York who do
not keep any books of account, and



EDWIN GOULD

the failure of any charitable institution to keep
a proper account of its receipts and expenditures
is a great evil.

Resolved, That all the institutions in the
State of New York, whether public or pri-
vate, incorporated or not incorporated, which
are of a charitable, eleemosynary, reformatory or
correctional character or design, be and
they hereby are advised that each and all
such institutions should keep proper books of
account, which shall set forth all receipts
and expenditure, with the vouchers therefor;
and, further,

Resolved, That failure or neglect on the part
of any such institution to keep such books
of account, shall be considered such a violation
of a rule of this Board as shall prohibit such
institution from receiving any funds from any
county, city, town or village.

Must Follow Ho Rules.

"The Board has adopted, it is concluded
pursuant to Article VIII, Section 4, of
the Constitution of this State, which
provides that the payments on account of in-
stitutions shall be according to rules
made by the State Board of Charities."

"Enough has developed," continued Sec-
retary Hebbard, "to make manifest to the
Board that great wrongs have been done
in the management of what might be
termed the second class charitable institu-
tions in New York City and other parts of
the eastern district of the State. In 300
of these institutions there have been no
books of account kept and many opportu-
nities for persons handling the funds to feather
their own nests."

"If this," the investigation will show
misappropriation, but whether criminal
charges will be made is at present prob-
lematical. This resolution of the Board
will stop any further misappropriations,
for the Board can force the execution of its
orders."

The secretary refused to divulge the
names of the implicated institutions at this
time. The purpose of the move of the
State Board is shown by the statistics as to
private charities, the number of which in-
stitutions number over 350, and which re-
ceive for a year amounts to over \$14,
000,000.

POLICEMAN STOPS A MOB.

Man, Enraged by Boys, Strikes Down a Child
With a Stone, and Crowd
Seeks His Life.

Some boys were harassing Giuseppe Ca-
nala, twenty-eight years old, of No. 224
Canal avenue, Williamsburg, while he was
on his way home from work last evening,
through Union avenue, and he turned
around to remonstrate. Just then a flying
ball of snow, hardened with ice, struck him
square in the face, under the right eye.

The man became furious. He started
after the boys, who ran, and he tripped
and fell, and the crowd surged him. When
he got up he picked up a stone and hurled
it with all his might, hoping to strike
one of his fleeing tormentors. It missed
the mark, but landed on five-year-old Gott-
lieb Jensen, of No. 17 Conover street. The
child was knocked senseless.

Then it was Canala's turn to run. He
turned the corner, pursued by a mob yell-
ing like cannibals. He ran into the arms
of a policeman, and the mob followed. The
policeman kept the mob at bay and took
him prisoner to the station house.

Attention was turned to the unconscious
child. An ambulance was called from St.
Catherine's Hospital, but before its arrival
the boy had recovered consciousness. The
injured lad was removed to the hospital.
Though cut badly, he will recover.

Senner on the Immigration Bill.

Immigration Commissioner Senner, when asked
yesterday concerning the new Immigration bill
as amended and passed by the United States
Senate, said: "That bill has been a law during
the last year, at least 20 per cent more immi-
grants would have been admitted. I do not
say that I do not approve of including women
in the clause referring to illiterates."